Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 09520 291809Z

53

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7388

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

SECRETGENEVA 9520

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS-2 TAGS: SREF TH

SUBJ: REFUGEES IN THAILAND; RELOCATION OF MUONG REFUGEES FROM

NAM PHONG

REF: A) STATE 300254; B) STATE 298883

1. APPROACH TO DEP HCR SPECIFIED PARA 2, REF A, MADE DEC 22. IT
WOULD HAVE BEEN USEFUL TO HAVE HAD BACKGROUND LATER RECEIVED IN REF
B ON THIS OCCASION, SINCE INITIAL REACTION OF MACE AFTER BRIEF
CONSULTATION WITH INFORMED AID (FYI:GOBIUS) WAS THAT MOVE OF
MUONG TO CAMP NEAR LAO BORDER
WAS HIGHLY SENSITIVE MATTER WHICH WOULD BE OPPOSED BY GOT IN VIEW
OF MUONG'S "CLOSE AFFILIATION WITH CIA". CONNECTION EVIDENTLY
WELL KNOWN IN KNOWLEDGABLE UNHCR CIRCLES. WHEN I TOLD MACE OF
OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT IN FACT GOT

FAVORED PROECT, HE EXPRESSED SURPRISE BUT SAID HE WOULD PASS INFORMATION AND REQUEST THAT BERTA LOOK INTO POSSIBILITIES OF UNCHR COOPERATION ALONG LINES PROPOSED REF A. HE WAS UNCERTAIN AT THAT TIME WHETHER BERTA HAD REPRESENTATIVE IN NAM PHONG, WAS INCLINED TO BELIEVE NOT, AND PROMISED ALSO TO COMMUNICATE OUR WISH IN TIS REGARD.

2. ONCE QUESTIN OF GOT ATTITUDE TOWARD PROJECT WAS DISPOSED OF, MACE'S OWN REACTION ON POINTS RAISED WAS POSITIVE AND HELPFUL, SUBJECT TO BERTA'S ASSESSMENT OF PROSPECTS ON THE SPOT. IN SECRET

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CONNECTION WITH PARA 5, REF A,

MACE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HIS OFFICE TOO HAD RECEIVED SUCH REPORTS FROM TIME TO TIME, AND THAT WHILE THEIR PEOPLE IN THE FIELD WERE DOING ALL POSSIBLE TO STAMP OUT SUCH PRACTICES, THEY WERE CIRCUMSCRIBED IN THIS EFFORT BY NUMERICAL AND PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS. NONETHELESS, HE SAID, 7UNHCR WOULD GIVE CONTINUING ATTENTION TO SUBJECT.

3. MACE PROMISED FULL UNHER REACTION WHEN BERTA'S COMMENTS RECEIVED. HOWEVER, HE (MACE NOW ON BRIEF HOLIDAY LEAVE AND IT THEREFORE UNLIKELY WE SHALL RECEIVE REPORT THIS SUBJECT UNTIL AFTER JAN 5. WILL FOLLOW UP AND ADVISE AT THAT TIME. BRENNAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)

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TAGS: SREF, TH, UNHCR To: STATE

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